

Proclamation

As people with disabilities continue their efforts to achieve social justice and pursue opportunities for life, liberty and happiness, the role of the direct support worker is rapidly evolving. Direct support professionals are personal care assistants, home care aides or staff in community residential support programs who assist the disabled with medications, preparing and eating meals, dressing, mobility and handling daily affairs.

November 13 through 16 of this year, direct support workers will gather on Oahu, Maui and the Big Island for a series of Direct Support Conference events. These meetings will provide an excellent opportunity for attendees to learn more about innovative and progressive approaches to helping people with disabilities achieve their desired lifestyle and independence goals.

The conference events are organized by the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Developmental Disabilities Division of the Department of Health, the University of Hawai'i's Center on Disability Studies, Easter Seals, Goodwill Industries, SECOH and VSA arts of Hawai'i-Pacific.

This conference is funded by the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant. The grant provides funding for the conference activities as part of its efforts to increase competitive employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

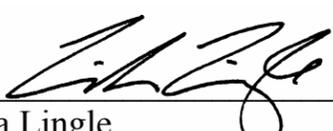
Hire Abilities Hawai'i, an innovative collaboration among the Department of Human Services, the University of Hawai'i, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, as well as its statewide Workforce Development Council will be among the participants at this important conference.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim **November 13 through 16, 2006**, as

DIRECT SUPPORT CONFERENCE DAYS

in Hawai'i, and join with our citizens in recognizing the role of the direct support worker in helping people with disabilities lead healthy and productive lives.

Done at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of November 2006.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i